

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim Amendment Summary

Claims pending

- Before this Amendment: Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-14, 16-28 and 30-36.
- After this Amendment: Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-14, 16-28 and 30-36.

Non-Elected, Canceled, or Withdrawn claims: None.

Amended claim: 23

New claims: None

Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of managing annotations in a pen-based computing system, the method comprising:

monitoring an electronic document for user annotations;

recognizing entry of an annotation into the electronic document;

collecting context data proximal to the annotation, wherein the context data comprises:

time;

location; and

surrounding text; and

determining whether the annotation comprises a gesture, wherein the gesture is an ink object commanding user defined functionality of a computer;

determining whether the annotation is associated with a date;

responsive to determining the annotation is associated with a date, determining if a date launch feature is enabled, such that:

in an event no date launch feature is enabled, continuing monitoring the electronic document for user annotations;

in an event the date launch feature is enabled, launching an associated application;

locating information related to the annotation using the annotation and the context data;

wherein the collecting context data comprises:

deriving at least two search terms;

comparing the search terms to a history of search terms; and

weighting each of the search terms according to whether a particular search term is included in the history of search terms, a higher weight being assigned to a search term that is included in the history of search terms; and

wherein the locating information related to the annotation comprises:

determining keywords that are likely to be of interest to a user based on the annotation and words contained in documents previously accessed by the user; and

using the keywords to locate information such that:

in an event a user-specified domain is selected, the keywords are used to locate information in one of a plurality of user-specified domains comprising:

a local computer;

a local network drive; and

the Internet.

2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the collecting context data further comprises extracting one or more words from text proximal to the annotation.

3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the collecting context data further comprises locating objects near to an annotation object in a document object model (DOM) associated with the annotation.

4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the collecting context data further comprises:

defining a first distance from the annotation;

defining a second distance from the annotation;

locating one or more keywords that are within the first distance from the annotation;

locating one or more keywords that are within the second distance from the annotation but not within the first distance from the annotation;

weighting the one or more keywords according to their distance from the annotation, with keywords within the first distance having a greater weight than keywords within the second distance but not within the first distance; and

wherein the locating information related to the annotation utilizes the keywords according to the weights assigned thereto.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the history of search terms comprises a history of search terms used by a particular user.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the history of search terms comprises a history of search terms used by all users of a particular group of users.

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the locating information related to the annotation further comprises searching the electronic document for terms that match or are similar to the annotation.

9. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the locating information related to the annotation further comprises searching remote sites for documents containing terms that match or are similar to the annotation.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the documents that were previously accessed by the user are limited to documents accessed within a specified time period.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the determining keywords that are likely to be of interest to a user based on the annotation and words contained in documents previously accessed by the user comprises:

determining keywords that are likely to be of interest to the user based on the annotation and words occurring with the annotations in the documents that were previously accessed by the user.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein annotations are recognized from a plurality of types of annotations, the plurality of types of annotations comprising:

circle;

underline;

block;

arrow;

callout;

free note; and

post-it note.

14. (Previously Presented) An annotation management system, comprising:

a processor;

a system memory coupled to the processor, the system memory comprising:

- a feature database configured to store a gesture comprising an ink object commanding user defined functionality of the system;
- an annotation monitoring module configured to monitor an electronic document for entry of an annotation;
- the annotation monitoring module further configured to recognize entry of an annotation into the electronic document;
- an extraction module configured to perform acts comprising:
 - collecting context data that appears proximal to the annotation ,
 - wherein the context data comprises:
 - time;
 - location; and
 - surrounding text; and
 - determining whether the annotation comprises a gesture, wherein the gesture is an ink object commanding user defined functionality of a computer;
 - determining whether the annotation is associated with a date;
 - responsive to determining the annotation is associated with a date,
 - determining if a date launch feature is enabled, such that:

in an event no date launch feature is enabled, continuing monitoring the electronic document for user annotations;

in an event the date launch feature is enabled, launching an associated application;

a query modification module configured to locate information related to the annotation using the annotation and the context data;

the extraction module further configured such that collecting context data comprises:

deriving at least two search terms;

comparing the search terms to a history of search terms; and

weighting each of the search terms according to whether a particular search term is included in the history of search terms, a higher weight being assigned to a search term that is included in the history of search terms; and

an information processing module configured to locate information related to the annotation, wherein the locating information related to the annotation comprises:

determining keywords that are likely to be of interest to a user based on the annotation and words contained in documents previously accessed by the user; and

using the keywords to locate information such that:

in an event a user-specified domain is selected, the keywords are used to locate information in one of a plurality of user-specified domains comprising:

a local computer;
a local network drive; and
the Internet.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein:
the context data comprises a plurality of keywords derived from text proximal to the annotation;

the extraction module is further configured to weight each keyword according to a relative distance that the keyword is from the annotation; and

the information processing module is further configured to locate the related content based on the weighted keywords as weighted according to the relative distance that each keyword is from the annotation.

17. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in claim 16, wherein a search is performed using the annotation as a search term and the results of the search are re-ranked according to the weighted keywords as weighted according to the relative distance that each keyword is from the annotation.

18. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in claim 16, wherein a search is performed using a query derived from the annotation and the weighted keywords as weighted according to the relative distance that each keyword is from the annotation.

19. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the related content located by the information processing module comprises keywords contained in the electronic document.

20. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the related content located by the information processing module comprises documents on a network that contain one or more of the keywords.

21. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the information processing module is further configured to determine suggested keywords that are likely to be of interest to the user based on the annotation and words appearing in other documents previously accessed by the user in which the same annotation was entered.

22. (Original) The system as recited in claim 21, further comprising a user interface configured to present the suggested keywords to the user and provide for selection of none or one or more of the suggested keywords by the user.

23. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media comprising non-volatile storage, the computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions embodied thereon ~~on at least one tangible component of the computer-readable media~~, the computer-executable instructions when the computer-readable media is operably coupled to a processor being executed on a computer to program, ~~cause~~ the computer to perform steps comprising:

monitoring an electronic document for user annotations;

recognizing an annotation entered into the electronic document ;

collecting context data proximal to the annotation, wherein the context data comprises:

time;

location; and

surrounding text; and

determining whether the annotation comprises a gesture, wherein the gesture is an ink object commanding user defined functionality of a computer;

determining whether the annotation is associated with a date;

responsive to determining the annotation is associated with a date, determining if a date launch feature is enabled, such that:

in an event no date launch feature is enabled, monitoring the electronic document for user annotations;

in an event the date launch feature is enabled, launching an associated application;

locating information related to the annotation using the annotation and the context data;

wherein the collecting context data comprises:

deriving at least two search terms;

comparing the search terms to a history of search terms; and

weighting each of the search terms according to whether a particular search term is included in the history of search terms, a higher weight being assigned to a search term that is included in the history of search terms; and

wherein the locating information related to the annotation comprises:

determining keywords that are likely to be of interest to a user based on the annotation and words contained in documents previously accessed by the user; and

using the keywords to locate information such that:

in an event a user-specified domain is selected, the keywords are used to locate information in one of a plurality of user-specified domains comprising:

a local computer;

a local network drive; and

the Internet.

24. (Previously Presented) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23, wherein annotations are recognized from a plurality of types of annotations, the plurality of types of annotations comprising:

- a circle;
- a box;
- an arrow;
- an underline;
- a double underline;
- a bracket;
- a highlight;
- a handwritten character;
- a free note;
- a post-it note.

25. (Previously Presented) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23, wherein the collecting context data related to the location of the annotation comprises collecting objects occurring within a certain distance from an annotation object in a document object model associated with the annotation object.

26. (Previously Presented) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23, wherein the locating additional content comprises locating one or more local keywords in the electronic document.

27. (Previously Presented) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23, wherein the locating additional content comprises locating one or more documents on a network that include one or more words indicated by the annotation or one or more keywords derived from the context data or from the documents that were previously accessed by the user.

28. (Previously Presented) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23, wherein the locating additional content comprises deriving the one or more keywords from the context data by identifying words that frequently appear with the annotation in other documents accessed by the user.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23, wherein the steps further comprise:
ranking search results according to the weighted search terms.

31. (Previously Presented) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 30, wherein the previously-used keywords were previously used by a current user, and wherein the weighting of at least a portion of the search terms comprises assigning a higher weight to search terms that are included in the keyword history list for the current user.

32. (Previously Presented) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 30, wherein the previously-used keywords were previously used by all users in a group of users, and wherein the weighting of at least a portion of the search terms comprises assigning a higher weight to search terms that are included in the keyword history list for the group of users.

33. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

detecting user input comprising a gesture associated with a search task;

wherein the locating information related to the annotation using the annotation and the context data is performed responsive to the detecting.

34. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 33, further comprising:

assigning, by the user, the search task to the gesture so as to associate the gesture with the search task.

35. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the information processing module is further configured to perform a search to locate the related content responsive to when the annotation monitoring module detects user input of a gesture that is associated with a search task.

36. (Previously Presented) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23, wherein the steps further comprise:

detecting user input of a gesture that is associated with a search task;

wherein the locating additional content that may be of interest to the user by executing a search is performed responsive to the detecting.